



# USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1520-6122

THURSDAY  
DECEMBER 23, 1999  
VOL. 46 NO. 102

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

## NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In Chicago, prices were 3 cents higher on all sizes. In New York prices were 2 cents higher on mediums and 1 cent higher on larger sizes. In Boston prices were 3 cents higher on extra large and large; New England extra large and large were 1 cent higher; and in Philadelphia extra large and large were unchanged to 1 cent higher and 2 cents higher on mediums. Balance, prices were unchanged. The market tone was fully steady to firm. Demand was seasonally active to excellent at times. Best movement centered around planned feature activity. Supplies were about adequate to tight. Breaking stock supplies were generally adequate from regular suppliers. Light type hens were fully sufficient for immediate slaughter needs.

**NORTH ATLANTIC** In Boston, prices were 3 cents higher on the larger sizes, and unchanged on mediums. In New England prices were 1 cent higher on large and extra large, balance unchanged. In Philadelphia prices were unchanged to 1 cent higher on larger sizes and no changed to 2 cents higher on mediums. The market tone was steady to firm. Retail demand was seasonally good. Floor stocks were short to adequate with supplies difficult to move due to shortages of trucks. Breaking stock supplies were adequate from regular suppliers.

**NEW YORK** Prices were 2 cents higher on mediums, balance 1 cent higher. Demand was seasonally good, best where feature activity was reported. Supplies were no more than adequate to closely cleared. The undertone was reported as fully steady to firm.

**MIDWEST** Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin and prices in Chicago were up 5 cents for the larger sizes, 4 cents for medium, and unchanged for small. Prices elsewhere were unchanged. Prices reflect changes from Tuesday's reported prices. The trade sentiment was firm. Retail demand was very good to excellent with additional gradeable nest run product being diverted into grading channels. Food service movement was fair to good. Supplies remained close to tight for the larger sizes and mostly barely adequate for the balance. Central States net run breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were usually available for the light trading and demand. Many breakers and graders had shortened schedules planned for the Christmas holiday. The trade sentiment was steady.

**CHICAGO** Prices for all sizes advanced 3 cents. Trade sentiment fully steady to firm. Retail and food service demand moderate to good and best where features were a factor. Supplies in close balance to barely adequate as some packers have difficulties covering current sales.

**SOUTHERN** Prices were unchanged to higher. The market tone was steady to fully steady. Retail demand was seasonally good approaching the holiday weekend, best where feature activity was in progress. Supplies were no more than adequate to closely cleared. Movement of eggs into retail channels in the Atlanta area was 13 percent more than last week, but 2 percent less than the same week last year. Breaking stock supplies were usually adequate from regular sources and demand for additional product remained unaggressive. Light type fowl were fully sufficient for processors current needs.

**WEST COAST** Prices unchanged. The market tone was firm with asking prices for next week 7 cents higher on all sizes in California; 8 cents higher on the large sizes, 5 cents higher on medium in the Northwest. Retailer demand seasonally good. Most dealers reported close holiday clearances.

**PRICES TO RETAILERS** - SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NORTHEAST CITIES	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
Boston (Brown)	109-118	98-107	63-65
New York	81-83	78-81	58-61
Philadelphia	65-81	63-79	47-58
<b>SOUTHERN CITIES</b>			
Atlanta (1) (2)	62-63	60.5-62	45-46
Jackson (1)	74-75	71-72	55-56
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	72-85	69-83	51-65
<b>MIDWEST CITIES</b>			
Chicago	69-74	68-73	48-53
Detroit (2)	61-64	60-63	40-43
Major Ohio Cities (2)	59.5-65	58-63	40-45
Major Wisconsin Cities	65-72	63-70	44-51
<b>WESTERN CITIES</b>			
Houston (1)	80-81	75-77	58-59
California(Grade AA)(1)(3)	103	96	85
(1) - Prices Reported Weekly	(3) - Reported Invoice Prices		
(2) - Delivered Warehouse	(4) - Prices To Retailers		

**CALIFORNIA** Prices unchanged. The market tone was firm with asking prices for next week 7 cents higher on all sizes. Retailer demand seasonally good. Supplies clearing well. Small invoice price 65. Ads in Southern California: smaller outlets: jumbo dozen 109, extra large dozen 99, large dozen 79-99.

**PRICES INVOICE, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.**

	RANGE
JUMBO	116
EXTRA LARGE	103
LARGE	96
MEDIUM	85

### **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:**

**PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.**

	RANGE
JUMBO	103-113
EXTRA LARGE	87-99
LARGE	86-93
MEDIUM	75-81

**PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.**

	RANGE
JUMBO	229-289
EXTRA LARGE	219-279
LARGE	199-209
MEDIUM	187-199

**CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK** Prices continued unchanged. Offerings were usually available for the light trading and demand. Many breakers had reduced inbound product and were working shortened schedules in observance of the Christmas holiday. A few breakers were seeking heavy nest runs as diversion into the cartoned market continued at a rather brisk pace. Trade sentiment steady.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 A.M., MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	22-27	25-27
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	10-13	
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

**EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK** Prices were unchanged.

Demand was fair to moderate but not active as most locations are on holiday schedules. Offerings were light but usually adequate for reduced needs. Undertone was steady. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending December 18, 1999 was 5% less than last week, and 10% less than the same week last year. Plants are on less than normal schedules.

PRICES MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
NEST RUN	24-28
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	9-13
EASTERN REGION AREA:	
AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV	

#### EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 18-Dec-99

(LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED.
CW	1,197,215	27,472	11,206	6,834	2,755	3,942
PW	1,252,677	28,840	12,003	6,585	2,738	4,170
LY	1,088,886	25,681	10,180	5,623	2,732	3,569
% PW	-4	-5	-7	4	1	-5
% LY	10	7	10	22	1	10
1999	56,352,378	1,296,573	540,046	296,662	128,918	179,588
1998	53,089,305	1,217,648	526,130	277,092	123,233	170,258

#### AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
	41.31	41.19	41.38

**NATIONAL LIQUID EGGS** No pasteurized whites or salt yolk reported. Trade sentiment steady for whole egg and whites with yolk products barely steady. Liquid yolk was reported as difficult to move this week with liquid whole egg moving fairly good. Liquid whites were sought and usually found barely adequate for current needs. Many processors running reduced schedules for next week. Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00AM Friday 24 December, 1999 non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	LAST WEEK	CHANGE FROM	CLASS
20-25	22.33	-58	WHITES	10	20
25.20	-24		YOLKS	TFEWR	24-26

**EASTERN REGION FROZEN EGGS** Mostly prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Offerings were adequate for the light and irregular demand. The undertone was mixed but about steady. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending December 18, 1999 were 14% less than last week, and 6 % less than a year ago. Shell egg supplies were sufficient for trade needs. WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	(MIN. 25 CONT.) MOSTLY	LTL RANGE
WHOLE	37-43	40-41	47-54
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		53-65
WHITES	36-40	37-40	42-54
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	50-55		57-64
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	45-52	45-50	56-62

(/) - WHOLE PLUS YOLK PLUS SWEETENER, GENERALLY 28-32% EGG SOLIDS.

**CENTRAL REGION FROZEN EGGS** Prices were generally unchanged. Trading and demand was usually light and was centered around immediate needs. Some operators reporting very lackluster movement on frozen yolk. Trade sentiment was steady for whole egg, at least steady for whites and steady to barely steady for yolk. WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	38-42	38-40
WHITES	37-40	38-40
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	50-54	50-52
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	45-51	48-50

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN EGGS** Prices unchanged.

Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 12/18 was 1% less than the previous week. Breaking stock offerings light. Frozen demand seasonally good and freezer stocks adequate. WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, FOB SHIPPING POINT (CENTS PER POUND IN 30 LB. CONTAINERS)

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	44-47
WHITES	42-45
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	57-60
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	54-57

**NATIONAL DRIED EGG REPORT** Mostly price on yolks were unchanged to lower, balance of items were unchanged. Demand and trading was light for fully adequate offerings. The undertone was about steady. Dried egg processed under federal inspection for the week ending December 18, 1999 were 1 % more than the previous week, and 1 % more than the same week a year ago. WHOLESALE SELLING PRICES, DOLLARS PER LB., IN CONTAINERS, TRUCKLOT AND LESS-THAN-TRUCKLOT VOLUMES.

	WHOLE	YOLKS	ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)
	1.49-1.60	1.25-1.40	2.88-3.18	1.20-1.30
	MOSTLY 1.50-1.55	MOSTLY 1.28-1.35	MOSTLY 2.97-3.05	MOSTLY 1.20-1.25

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES** WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DEC 16 - DEC 22, 1999

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS		TOTAL LOADS							
136.00								34.00		170.00							
SE		NE		MW		SC		NW		SW							
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	LOADS
GNR W 1	49.71	52.46	50.83	52.92	49.44	50.93	63.50	GNR W 1	—	54.53	—	—	—	—	24.50	GNR W 1	24.50
GNR W 2	—	46.00	46.75	41.17	40.56	51.00	15.50	GNR W 2	—	50.80	—	—	—	57.75	6.50	GNR W 2	6.50
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	26.00	28.00	6.00	GNR W 3	—	35.50	—	—	—	—	4.00	GNR W 3	4.00
GNR W 4	—	—	25.33	27.00	24.35	27.00	10.00	GNR BR 1	—	62.33	—	—	—	—	1.50	GNR BR 1	1.50
GNR BR 1	—	—	62.00	67.20	54.50	63.00	5.00	GL W J	62.50	50.00	—	—	—	68.00	1.50	GL W J	1.50
GNR BR 2	—	—	—	70.00	—	—	1.00	GL W XL	60.50	67.00	—	—	64.60	66.67	4.50	GL W XL	4.50
GL W J	45.00	—	—	—	—	—	1.00	GL W LG	—	67.00	—	—	65.15	68.86	7.25	GL W LG	7.25
GL W XL	63.00	65.00	—	64.30	60.50	—	6.00	GL W MD	39.50	42.80	—	—	—	44.00	5.50	GL W MD	5.50
GL W LG	63.00	65.00	—	63.17	62.83	62.00	11.50	GL W SM	20.00	—	—	—	—	26.00	1.00	GL W SM	1.00
GL W MD	—	—	37.88	39.50	44.25	—	14.00	NRBS - 42	15.00	17.00	—	—	—	—	1.00	NRBS - 42	1.00
GL W SM	22.00	23.00	24.92	26.42	—	—	4.00	NRBS - 39	12.00	14.00	—	—	—	—	1.00	NRBS - 39	1.00
NRBS - 50	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00										
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	28.00	—	—	12.50										
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	—	19.00	21.00	1.00										
NRBS - 36	—	—	—	—	—	17.25	2.00										

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

**EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices were unchanged. Demand was light for fully adequate to ample offerings. Processing schedules are less than normal as most are on holiday schedules. The undertone was steady.

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Trading was too few to report. Demand was light for at least adequate offerings of leghorn fowl. Finished sales were moderate. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady.

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Prices were unchanged. Additional product demand was very light as most processors worked reduced schedules in observance of the upcoming holidays. Finished product movement was usually fairly good. Trade sentiment steady.

**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plants worked reduced holiday schedules. Offerings ample.

**LIVE HENS**

Prices paid for live hens (trucklot) cents/pounds at farm.

LIGHT	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern Light	0-0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0-5 (2)	0

(1) Buyer Loading (2) Producer Loading  
(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

**SHELL EGGS-12 METRO AREA** FOR WEEK ENDING 23-Dec-99  
AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A  
A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED  
STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	77.37	75.00	54.93
SOUTHERN	70.14	68.24	51.52
MIDWEST	65.31	63.99	44.86
WESTERN	94.96	90.12	78.08
TWELVE METRO AREAS	80.34	77.35	60.74
COMPUTED FROM SIMPLE WEEKLY AVERAGES WEIGHTED BY METROPOLITAN AREA POPULATIONS			

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Prices were irregular when compared to last week values. Trading was of light to fair volume as sellers are on reduced schedules. Demand was fair but unaggressive as users of canners were also on reduced schedules. Offerings were usually sufficient for full trade needs. The undertone was cautious and ranged from about steady to steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
25.5-26.25 MAJORITY	32-35 MAJORITY 33.5-34.5
CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED	
LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
25-27 MAJORITY 25-26	31.75-37 MAJORITY 36-36.75

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION** W/E 18-DEC-99

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY			
(PRELIMINARY)	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	2,594	2,544	5,138
LAST WEEK	2,167	1,425	3,592
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,562	1,395	3,957
TO-DATE/1999	103,480	71,715	175,195
TO-DATE/1998	101,368	63,072	164,440

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA			
	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	19	0	19
LAST WEEK	488	0	488
SAME WEEK YR AGO	343	14	357
TO-DATE/1999	22,335	264	22,599
TO-DATE/1998	24,353	352	24,705

SOURCE: AGRI. CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA			
	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	2,613	2,544	5,157
LAST WEEK	2,655	1,425	4,080
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,905	1,409	4,314
TO-DATE/1999	125,815	71,979	197,794
TO-DATE/1998	125,721	63,424	189,145

### Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (Preliminary)

Type	Week Ending December 11, 1999		Year-To-Date	
	(000)	1998 /1	(000)	1998
Liquid	255	333	12,732	14,300
Frozen	0	0	6	50
Dried	0	32	644	740
Total	255	365	13,382	15,090

### U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (Preliminary)

Type	Week Ending December 11, 1999		Year-To-Date	
	(000)	1998 /1	(000)	1998
Liquid	97	151	4,456	3,932
Frozen	21	17	606	215
Dried	0	0	310	235
Total	118	168	5,372	4,382

### Inspected Shell Eggs

#### U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)

Type	Week Ending December 11, 1999		Year-To-Date	
	1999	1998 /1	1999	1998
Jumbo	60	0	1,418	1,399
Extra Large	1,860	2,160	42,562	37,102
Large	1,895	4,910	146,848	130,512
Medium	3,380	2,595	52,956	64,751
Ungraded	9,270	11,621	611,613	362,393
Misc	0	0	11,622	9,117
Total	16,465	21,286	867,019	605,274

/1 Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.  
Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

**DETROIT** PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE.

JUMBO	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
69-72	60-66	58-63	38-43	28-32

**IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN** PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, LOOSE, AT FARM (CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS).

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
49-51	30-32	18-20

**NEW ENGLAND** PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM

JUMBO	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
122-125	98-101	87-90	44-47	14-17

### WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS -

SELECTED STGE CENTERS  
(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	FREGS	TURKS	POP
	LBS	LBS	LBS
AM 20-Dec-99	3,634	65,265	79,861
AM 1-Dec-99	3,309	82,430	74,738
CHG	325	-17165	5123
PCT CHG	10	-21	7

23, 1999

### MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS W/E 18-Dec-99

SELECTED CONSUMING CENTERS LY	CW	PW THOUSANDS	PCT CHG	PW
ATLANTA	32.6	28.8	13	-2
BOSTON	3.6	3.3	9	-60
CHICAGO	63.4	50.0	4	13
DETROIT	45.9	40.4	14	30
KANSAS CITY	0.1	0.1	0	0
LOS ANGELES	100.3	101.6	-1	11
NEW ORLEANS	12.4	14.0	-11	-23
NEW YORK	47.6	39.1	22	0
ST. LOUIS	15.3	15.7	-3	-6
SAN FRANCISCO	24.4	22.4	9	4
TOTAL	345.6	315.4	10	5
4 WK MVG AVG	312.0			

### COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT FOR W/E 18-Dec-99 (RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
N. ATLANTIC	239.8	-5	-5
E.N. CENTRAL	480.1	-1	9
W.N. CENTRAL	190.4	-4	6
S. ATLANTIC	225.9	3	-1
S. CENTRAL	79.3	-1	13
WEST	208.3	-1	-11
TOTAL	1423.8	-2	2

MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING 90 90

### NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT, DECEMBER 21, 1999. PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE MOSTLY	123	112	76	47
	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE MOSTLY	116-120	105-109	69-73	39-43
	118-119	107-108	71-72	41-42
RHODE ISLAND MOSTLY	121-125	110-114	72-76	43-47
	121	110	72	43
VERMONT MOSTLY	123-126	112-115	75-79	-
	123	112	75	-

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**CHICKENS AND EGGS**

U.S. egg production totaled 7.02 billion during November 1999, up 4 percent from the 6.72 billion produced in 1998. Production included 5.96 billion table eggs and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 997 million were broiler-type and 61.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during November 1999 averaged 328 million, up 3 percent from the total average number of layers during November 1998. November egg production per 100 layers was 2,139 eggs, up 1 percent from 2,109 eggs in November 1998.

-Special Note- Effective January 2000, the annual summary title will change from "Layers and Egg Production Summary" to "Chickens and Eggs Summary."

All layers in the U.S. on December 1, 1999, totaled 329 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 329 million layers consisted of 270 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 55.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.73 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on December 1, 1999, averaged 71.6 eggs per 100 layers, up 1 percent from the 70.8 a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.59 billion eggs during November, up 4 percent from November 1998. The average number of layers during November, at 309 million, was up 2 percent from a year earlier. Egg-type chicks hatched during November totaled 33.1 million, up 6 percent from November 1998. Eggs in incubators totaled 30.0 million on December 1, 1999, down 7 percent from a year ago. Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 282,000 during November 1999, up 30 percent from November 1998.